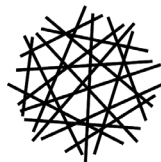


# READI 2.0 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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## *Regional Workshop #2*

OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2023



**HWC**  
ENGINEERING





# OPENING ACTIVITY

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1. Introduce yourselves.
2. Brainstorm the **perfect date** in East Central Indiana for the Golden Bachelor. Your date must include...



Entertainment



Dinner



Dessert

Each must come from a different county!

# AGENDA



PLANNING PROCESS



VISION



GOALS & STRATEGIES



CALL FOR PROJECTS



NEXT STEPS

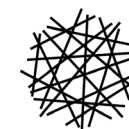




# PLANNING PROCESS



REGIONAL WORKSHOP #2



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# ECI READI 2.0 PROJECT MILESTONES

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# ENGAGEMENT WITH THE REGION

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## County Workshops

June 13<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>

8 workshops

212 participants



## Public Input Survey

August 15<sup>th</sup> to September 11<sup>th</sup>

1,058 responses

## Youth Survey

September 14<sup>th</sup> – October 29<sup>th</sup>

1,035 responses



## Regional Workshop #1

August 15<sup>th</sup>

Alumni Center in Muncie

107 participants

REGIONAL WORKSHOP #2



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# VISION

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# VISION STATEMENT

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East Central Indiana aspires to be a **welcoming** region in which new and existing residents are invited to be their authentic selves and create a life that matters. Backed by community resources, residents are empowered to **forge their own path to success**. There are three elements that serve as the backbone for East Central Indiana's vision: a mosaic of communities, innovative eds and meds industries, and amenities that enable residents to thrive. These three elements encapsulate the region's strengths, while also providing a focus for the **future**.



# VISION STATEMENT

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## A Mosaic of Communities

The region is made up of **diverse communities ranging in size and character**, from rural communities like Redkey to metros like Muncie. To leverage the unique perspectives, assets, and opportunities our region has to offer, East Central Indiana is **committed to collaboration** across sectors and scales. Our towns, cities, and counties understand that we are stronger together, and can learn from one another. **When opportunities to work together arise, our region steps up.**



## Innovative Eds & Meds

The region is home to several **higher education institutions and hospitals** which provide transformative educational opportunities and critical health services to rural and underserved communities. To support the needs of these anchor institutions to fill high-wage positions, East Central Indiana is committed to **talent development and talent attraction.**



## Amenities That Enable Residents to Thrive

The region leverages existing assets in **outdoor recreation, arts and culture, and family-owned small businesses** to enhance quality of life for residents. Residents are further supported by a commitment to **increase educational attainment, expand access to childcare, and revitalize historic downtowns.** By expanding access to valuable amenities, East Central Indiana enables residents to thrive.



# VISION STATEMENT

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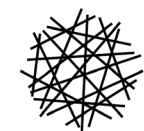
By capitalizing on each of these distinct elements, East Central Indiana stands out as a **desirable place to live and work**, a place that both **attracts and retains talent**. When pursued, this vision should manifest in **population growth** and **regional prosperity**.



# GOALS & STRATEGIES



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# QUALITY OF LIFE

Stabilize the region's population and encourage **growth** through investments that directly benefit the **health and well-being** of residents, promote **tourism**, and support **vibrant downtowns**.

## Regional Strategies

- Advocate for the preservation of existing rural health services.
- Expand access to mental health resources in the region.
- Expand access to drug and alcohol rehabilitation services in the region.
- Enhance pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to encourage healthy lifestyles and provide alternative transportation options.
- Enhance existing parks and trails and consider opportunities to develop new outdoor recreation amenities.
- Market existing regional attractions and encourage the development of new entertainment, recreation, retail, and culinary destinations.
- Revitalize historic downtowns through façade and streetscape improvements, as well as the introduction of new businesses, including nightlife.

# HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE

Stimulate the development of **quality housing** in the region to create **thriving neighborhoods** that appeal to both current and future residents.

## Regional Strategies

- Develop quality workforce housing across the region.
- Develop attractive rental options that appeal to young professionals.
- Invest in infrastructure improvements to spur housing development.
- Mitigate blight and encourage context-appropriate infill development.
- Encourage property maintenance and responsible homeownership in existing neighborhoods to instill community pride.





# CHILDCARE & SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Position the region as a **great place to raise a family**, and attract employers seeking a robust workforce, by investing in **quality, affordable childcare**.

## Regional Strategies

- Increase wages to attract more skilled professionals to early childhood education.
- Increase childcare capacity by encouraging local employers, schools, and churches to offer childcare services.
- Develop new, stand-alone childcare centers offering quality, affordable services.



# EDUCATION & OPPORTUNITY

Enhance the **upward mobility** of residents and promote regional prosperity by developing **talent**, supporting **innovation**, and attracting **well-paying jobs** to the region.

## Regional Strategies

- Increase awareness of existing educational resources and skills training opportunities as pathways to well-paying jobs in East Central Indiana.
- Connect recent college graduates to satisfying career opportunities in the region.
- Create dedicated spaces to encourage innovation and collaboration, such as co-working spaces, makerspaces, and community kitchens.
- Encourage the creation of new businesses through financing and technical support.
- Invest in quality-of-life and quality-of-place improvements to attract jobs and talent.





# CALL FOR PROJECTS



REGIONAL WORKSHOP #2



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## HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE CALL FOR PROJECTS

EAST CENTRAL  
INDIANA REGIONAL  
PARTNERSHIP

The **East Central Indiana Regional Partnership (ECIRP)** is preparing an updated regional development plan and will be submitting a proposal for funding through the READI 2.0 initiative. An official "Call for Projects" in the East Central Indiana Region will be released on or around **October 25th, 2023**. To prepare for the Call for Projects, the East Central Indiana Regional Partnership is providing this informational sheet to help entities with potential projects to begin gathering baseline information and materials. Eligible project activities are limited to capital projects or infrastructure improvements.

Additional information needed to submit a project and a project scoring rubric will be released with the East Central Indiana Region's Call for Projects on or around October 25th, 2023. For more information on the READI 2.0 initiative, including a Policy Overview and Application Guidance, please visit <https://indianareadi.com/resources>.

### Baseline Information and Materials to Prepare:

- Project Name
- Project Lead (city, town, county, nonprofit, or private entity)
- County
- Project Location (address/cross street)
- Project Description
- Budget\*
  - Total Budget
  - Local Government Match
  - Private and Philanthropic Match
  - READI Request
- Does the Project Lead have site control of the Project Location?
- Preliminary Engineering/ Architectural Drawings (if applicable)
- Timeline
  - Anticipated Start Date
  - Anticipated Completion Date
  - Is the project phased? If so, explain.
- Which Regional Priority(ies) is this project addressing?
  - Quality of Life
  - Housing & Infrastructure
  - Childcare & Support for Families
  - Education & Opportunity
  - Other - Please explain

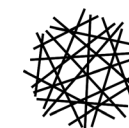
\* Attracting private investment is a major goal of the IEDC's READI 2.0 program.



# ECI REGION CALL FOR PROJECTS

- **Purpose is to Collect Project Ideas**
  - Will help the Steering Committee understand what project opportunities are available
  - Final project selection will occur in the Spring of 2024 with the IEDC **after** the region's funding award
- **Project Portal Opens Today**
  - Will be open until 5 pm on November 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Must be completed in one sitting as work cannot be saved (question list available on Forge Your Path website)
  - A project submittal to the project portal is **not a guarantee of approval**

## REGIONAL WORKSHOP #2



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# ECI REGION PROJECT SCORING FRAMEWORK

PRIMARY CATEGORIES	SCORING CONSIDERATIONS
<b>Alignment with Regional Goals and IEDC Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accomplish multiple goals</li></ul>
<b>Project Match</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More match (public/private/other)</li></ul>
<b>Shovel Ready Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Site controlled</li><li>• Match secured</li><li>• Preliminary engineering complete</li></ul>
<b>High Impact Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional high impact project</li><li>• County priority project</li><li>• High economic impact project</li></ul>
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has not received a READI grant before</li><li>• Implementation phase of a READI project</li></ul>

# NEXT STEPS

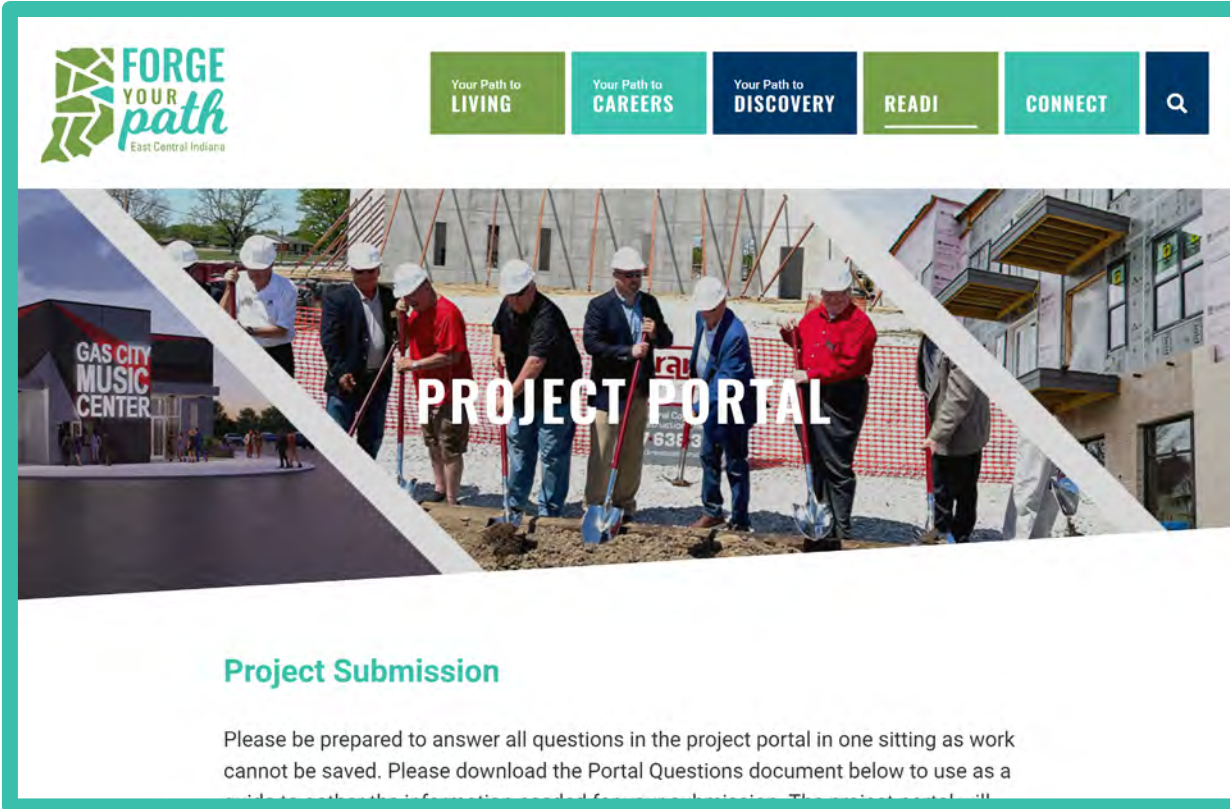


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# NEXT STEPS



The screenshot shows the Forge Your Path website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo on the left and five menu items: 'Your Path to LIVING', 'Your Path to CAREERS', 'Your Path to DISCOVERY', 'READ!' (highlighted with a green underline), and 'CONNECT'. A search icon is located to the right of the menu. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image featuring a group of people in hard hats and safety vests participating in a groundbreaking ceremony. The text 'PROJECT PORTAL' is overlaid in large white letters. To the left of the banner, there is a smaller image of a building with the text 'GAS CITY MUSIC CENTER'. Below the banner, the section is titled 'Project Submission' in green. The text below reads: 'Please be prepared to answer all questions in the project portal in one sitting as work cannot be saved. Please download the Portal Questions document below to use as a guide to enter the information needed for your submission. The project portal will'.



**Access the project portal!**

<https://forgeeci.com/project-portal/>



# THANK YOU

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